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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

SOUTH HERTS (No. 1) COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT

MALCOLM GROSS

M.B., B.S., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Eng.), D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1948

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ADDENDUM to ANNUAL REPORT on the [illegible] (No.1)
[illegible] for the [illegible] 1948

Please insert on Page 8, after para (e) "Premises":-

(f) Washed Milk Bottles

The bacteriological examination of bottles was considerably curtailed this year owing to laboratory difficulties. Bottles which were reported on during the last four months of the year gave the following results:-

Satisfactory	... ...	7
Fairly satisfactory	...	5
Unsatisfactory	... ...	13

It was considered by the Chief Sanitary Inspector that these poor figures were largely a reflection, in some dairies, on the discontinuance of routine sampling for the first eight months of the year.

Public Health Department,
Market Square, Hazel Hempstead.

24th October, 1949

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HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

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PREFACE

The most striking feature of the District Vital Statistics for 1948 is the marked fall in the Birth Rate, which was only 16.6 as compared with 21.5 in 1947. A rather smaller fall, 17.9 as compared with 20.5, is shown for the whole of England and Wales.

There was a fall in the Death Rate from 11.8 in 1947 to 9.6 in 1948.

The Infant Mortality Rate has fallen to 24.9 as compared with 30.4 in 1947. This figure of 24.9 compares with the corresponding figure of 34 for the whole of England and Wales. The total number of infant deaths in the District was 23, and about 82% of these deaths occurred in the first three months of life.

The incidence of infectious disease was very light, apart from Measles and Whooping Cough.

Whereas in 1947 Measles was epidemic in the Borough and Rural District of Hemel Hempstead, in 1948 it was epidemic in Berkhamsted Urban and Rural Districts and Tring Urban District. There were no deaths.

There was a great increase in the number of cases of Whooping Cough notified throughout the District; whereas in 1947 only 16 cases were notified, in 1948 the figure rose to 197. The most were in Berkhamsted Urban District (94) and in the Borough of Hemel Hempstead (38). There were two deaths.

There were 42 cases of Scarlet Fever as compared with 59 in 1947. All except one were removed to isolation hospital. The cases were scattered throughout the District and occurred right through the year.

There was only one case of Poliomyelitis in the District. There were no cases of Diphtheria.

The number of persons attending the Hemel Hempstead Cleansing Station during the year fell to 20 as compared with 47 in 1947. Of the 20 cases, 3 were dealt with for verminous conditions other than Scabies.

In extension of the addresses on Health Subjects arranged in 1947, a number of further talks and demonstrations of Health films were arranged during 1948 under the auspices of various voluntary organisations.

MALCOLM GROSS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Market Square,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts.

August, 1949.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Borough comprises	7,193 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population), 1948	22,590
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	6,186
Rateable Value	£139,128
Sum represented by a penny rate	£544

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	338	168	170	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.7
	Illegitimate	16	9	7		
STILL-BIRTHS	Legitimate	10	5	5	STILL-BIRTH RATE per 1,000 (live and still) births	32.8
	Illegitimate	2	—	2		
DEATHS		199	102	97	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	8.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births		28.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...		29.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...		NIL
Actual number of deaths under 1 year:		
Legitimate	10	Total 10
Illegitimate	—	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 33

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 1

Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) ... NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 199 deaths, 66 were attributed to Heart Disease, 25 to Other Circulatory Diseases, 33 to Cancer, 10 to Tuberculosis (2 were Non-Respiratory) and 18 to Other Respiratory Diseases. There was one death from Whooping Cough and one due to a road traffic accident.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 10 deaths, 7 were due to Congenital Disease or Injury, 1 to Prematurity and 2 to Accidents. All cases, except one, were under three months of age.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Visits and Inspections Made.

COMPLAINTS :	Number of complaints received at office	232
GENERAL :	Houses—Public Health Acts	322
	Housing Act	35
	Housing Survey	90
	Infectious diseases	122
	Overcrowding	3199
	On complaint	263
	Council House Applicants ...	179
	Drainage inspections and tests	414
	Cesspools	24
	Common Lodging Houses	13
	Tents, Vans and Sheds	17
	Canal Boats	48
	Stables and Piggeries	3
	Rats and and Mice infestation	962
	Factories	86
	Workplaces	2
	Outworkers' rooms	4
	Bakehouses	55
	Schools	3
	Cinemas	4
	Shops Acts	71
	Petroleum Acts	84
	Water Supply	127
	Swimming Pool	3
	Smoke observations	8

	Vacant land and dumps	6
	Verminous premises or rooms	59
	Revisits to premises under Notice ...	1665
	Interviews with owners, etc.	581
	Miscellaneous visits	464
MEAT AND FOODS :	Slaughterhouses	40
	Butchers' shops and stalls	129
	Fried fish shops	23
	General food shops and premises ...	188
	Dairies and milkshops	353
	Cowsheds	250
	Ice cream premises	37
	Restaurants and dining rooms	88
SAMPLES TAKEN :	Milk samples	152
	Milk samples tested at office	112
	Milk bottles and churn rinses	42
	Water Samples	67
	Ice cream samples	4
	Swimming pool	7

Notices Served and Complied With.

Outstanding 31.12.47	Served 1948	Complied with 1948	Outstanding 31.12.48
217	342	393	166

Nuisances, Defects and Contraventions remedied.

Houses	750
Drainage	145
Waterclosets	121
Miscellaneous	184
Moveable dwellings	2
Shops	4
Common lodging houses	1
Food premises	37
Dairies and milkshops	19
Cowsheds	13
Licensed premises	24
Factories and Workplaces	40
Petroleum	8

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease	35
Houses treated for bed bugs—Council houses	12
Other houses	19
Houses treated for other vermin	28
Loads of bedding steam disinfected	9

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Milk Production and Distribution.

(a) The bulk of the milk consumed in the Borough has been pasteurised. Of the 27 farms actually in the Borough, 7 produce Tuberculin Tested milk and 4 Accredited milk. The other 16 produce non-graded milk.

(b) Non-Graded Milk. The production of non-graded milk is largely controlled by inspection of premises and by the carrying out of the Resazurin Test. During the year, the test has shown that the keeping quality of the milk has been, on the whole, well maintained; nearly 80% of the tests have been satisfactory.

(c) Graded (Designated) Milk. Designated milk was being produced at the end of the year as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested milk	7 farms
Accredited milk	4 farms

This represents an increase during the year of three " T.T." farms and one " Accredited."

Twenty-six samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted for examination by the prescribed tests, of which, twenty-four were satisfactory. Of thirteen samples of Tuberculin Tested milk examined, two were unsatisfactory; these were reported to the County Health Department where appropriate action was taken.

(d) Register. The number of persons on the Register at the end of 1948 was:

Cowkeepers only	22
Cowkeeper Retailers	5
Retailers (Resident in the Borough) ...	6
Retailers (Not Resident in the Borough)	6
Retailers (Bottled milk only—General Shops)	4
Licensed to Pasteurise milk	1
Licensed to Bottle and Sell Tuberculin Tested milk	1
Licensed to Sell Tuberculin Tested milk ...	6

(e) Premises. The Chief Sanitary Inspector states:—" The standard of premises used for milk production and distribution has been further improved during the year, work being carried out at ten farms and two dairies. At two farms dilapidated old cowsheds were converted to provide milking parlours and dairies, and in a third a store room was converted to a modern dairy and sterilizing room: two of these farms are now licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk."

Ice Cream.

There has been a high standard of production of ice cream by both of the two local manufacturers. Both have installed new and up-to-date apparatus.

There are a number of itinerant ice cream vendors in the town. Sampling is difficult owing to their irregular appearance, but contact is made with the Sanitary Authority in whose area the particular ice cream is manufactured in order to determine whether the premises are registered and the process satisfactory.

Food Premises.

Over five hundred visits were paid to food premises (excluding cowsheds and dairies) during the year, special attention being paid to structural conditions, the general cleanliness of the rooms and appliances and the cleanliness of and methods adopted by the persons employed, in addition to the fitness or otherwise of the food which was being sold, stored or prepared for human consumption.

Licensed Premises.

The town contains over fifty public houses, many of them very small and old. Fifty-four visits were made in 1948, and improvements were carried out in a number of cases.

The Brewery companies proved very co-operative, and were always ready to discuss proposals and amend licence applications to meet our requirements. Further improvements will not be so easily obtained until the terms of the Bill to nationalise these premises, at present before Parliament, are known.

Basement Bakehouses.

The quinquennial inspection of basement bakehouses was carried out during the year: there are three such premises in the Borough. After consideration of the reports, it was decided that, subject to agreed works being carried out satisfactorily, the certificates of suitability should be continued.

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The bacteriological examination of bottles was considerably curtailed this year owing to Laboratory difficulties. Bottles which were reported on during the last four months of the year gave the folllowing results:-

Satisfactory	7
Fairly satisfactory ...	5
Unsatisfactory	15

It was considered by the Chief Sanitary Inspector that these poor figures were largely a reflection, in some dairies, on the discontinuance of routine sampling for the first eight months of the year.

Public Health Department,
Market Square, Samuel Homestead.

24th October, 1949

Meat and Food Inspection.

1. Regional slaughtering is still centred at Watford. Two private slaughterhouses in the Borough have been approved by the Ministry of Food for slaughtering under the Self Supplier Scheme, and during the year forty-one pigs, four calves, one sheep and two goats were examined.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	4	1	41
Number inspected	...	...	4	1	41
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcases **condemned** ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2.4
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	14.6

2. **Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption** (including food inspected at shops, depots, slaughterhouses and the railway yard).

Meat:

Beef	decomposition	502 lbs.
Pork	tuberculosis	25 lbs.
Bacon	decomposition	53 lbs.
Goat	moribund	30 lbs.
Corned Beef ...	decomposition	386 lbs.
Miscellaneous ...	—	43 lbs.

Tinned Goods—" Blown " or Pierced:

Meat	201 tins
Fish	140 tins
Vegetables	290 tins
Fruit	110 tins
Milk	366 tins
Soup	63 tins
Jam	49 tins
Miscellaneous	178 tins

Various—Decomposition or Unwholesome:

Fish	268 lbs.
Fish	72 jars
Fruit	22 lbs.
Cheese	59 lbs.
Eggs	81
Dried Eggs	15 pkts.
Rhubarb Pulp	1 barrel
Sweets	63 lbs.
Salt	66 pkts.
Pickles	9 bots.
Meat pies	8 lbs.
Miscellaneous	15 lbs.

Food Poisoning:

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) **Factories** in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	61	15	3	—
(ii) **Factories** not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	108	119	6	—
(iii) **Other Premises** in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	169	134	9	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	2	2	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	2	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	3	4	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	18	18			
(c) not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	29	28	—	—	—

Outwork.

SECTION 110:

Number of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c):

Wearing apparel—making, etc.	12
Tents	1
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially from paper ...	85
Brush making	4
Total	102

Number of cases in default in sending lists to the Council ... Nil
Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists ... ... Nil

SECTION 111.:

Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises ... Nil

HOUSING

The housing problem is one which ought to be causing great concern. At the beginning of 1949 there were well over 900 applicants for housing accommodation, 700 of whom had not homes of their own. During 1947, 114 houses were built in the Borough and 154 in 1948, making a total of 268 in the last two years. In 1948, the Sanitary Inspector's Department carried out a housing survey in which it was computed that 398 houses were ripe for demolition; it was also found that of the 6,000 odd houses in the Borough, nearly 2,000 were without baths and that there were 54 houses overcrowded according to legal standards—this standard being so low as to permit living rooms to be used also as bedrooms.

The Housing Manager states:—" The completion of over one hundred and fifty houses during 1948 has helped to remove many of the long outstanding bad cases from the applicants' list. There are, however, many others of great urgency, for whom it is clear that little can be done for some time to come. Apart from these applicants, who, at one time comparatively comfortable, are now badly overcrowded owing to family increases, or the marriage of other members of the household, there are newcomers to the town, whose plight is desperate, and who have not friends or relatives here to help them in an emergency. There are those too, for whom for reasons of health, other accommodation is essen-

tial and those whose physical health is affected by their incompatibility of temperament with other members of the household.

With the housing shortage of the past few years, and the desperate need of so many people for any type of accommodation, it is easy to lose sight of the original purpose of housing authorities —to provide better housing for families living in old and condemned property. The great demand for accommodation too, coupled with high rents resulting from present day building costs, almost inevitably results in the passing over of the potential "problem family." Such families continue to live under very bad conditions, without the mental ability or physical inclination even to make the best of the poor accommodation they have. It is clear that in spite of the housing of a number of families during the year, there are still many more in need of help."

1. During the year 1948, the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Temporary Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent Brick ...	70	3 and 4 bedroom	6

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Temporary Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent Prefabricated	86	3 bedroom B.I.S.F.	Nil
Permanent Brick ...	65	3 and 4 bedroom	3

2. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.48 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 up to 31.12.48.

Site	No. of Houses	Type of House
Crabtree Lane ...	31	Temporary Prefabricated—2 bedroom
Wood Crescent ...	19	Temporary Prefabricated—2 bedroom
Adeyfield	102	Permanent Prefab —B.I.S.F., 3 bed.

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.48.

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type (all permanent)	Number Completed
Belswains Estate ...	102	2, 3 and 4 bedroom	78
Beechfield Estate ...	98	2 and 3 bedroom	12
Stonelea Road... ...	31	3 bedroom	24
Fairway	6	do.	Nil

(c) OTHER SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.48 ... ... Nil

3. Number of houses requisitioned by the Authority as at the end of 1948 51

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

There were no extensions to the sewer during the year.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states:—" Five drains were connected to the sewer during the year. In the case of St. Nicholas School, sewage had been discharging for years into a ditch on Shrub Hill Common. Two years ago the Council extended the Green End Lane Sewer to the school boundary, and two hundred yards of drain have now been constructed to connect the old drainage system to the new sewer. When this work was in progress, the school lodge was disconnected from a cesspool, and drains were laid connecting to the main system. Thus ends a serious nuisance which has been the subject of correspondence for the last eleven years at least."

WATER SUPPLIES

The greater part of the Borough is supplied by mains water; a small area at Felden is connected to the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Company's water supply, and the remainder of the town has, up to this year, relied on the Council's two boreholes near the centre of the town. These two bores, 326ft. and 346ft. respectively, are in the chalk. Towards the end of the year, the Council's new borehole, 327ft. deep, at Piccotts End was connected to the low level main; this additional supply facilitates a good supply of water during peak periods. This improvement has been enhanced by the laying of larger mains in Highfield and Adeyfield.

Regular sampling of main water supplies was continued. The need for chlorination of the water before distribution was emphasised by the six unsatisfactory bacteriological samples of raw water (out of twelve taken), compared with sixteen satisfactory reports on treated water (sixteen samples taken). Three samples were submitted for chemical examination and were reported as satisfactory.

The whole of the water for public supply is subjected to chlorination.

As a result of unsatisfactory samples obtained from two wells at Winkwell, it was decided to extend the main from London Road to these premises so that dependence on these wells might be eliminated.

The following table gives particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Population*	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
21850	6101	21733	26	71

* Registrar-General's estimated population 1947.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1948:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	20	20	Nil
Whooping Cough	38	11	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3	Nil
Measles	50	9	Nil
Pneumonia	23	22	—
Dysentery...	1	—	—
Erysipelas	2	2	—
Infective Hepatitis	1	1	—
Weil's Disease	1	1	—
Undulant Fever	1	1	—

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis	Measles	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Infective Hepatitis	Weil's Disease	Undulant Fever
Under 1 year ...	..	5	...	1	7	...	1	...	...	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	4	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
2 to 3 ,, ...	2	6	...	10	3	...	...	...	...	...
3 to 4 ,, ...	1	3	...	10	2	1	...	...	...	...
4 to 5 ,, ...	3	9	1	8	1	...	...	...	...	...
5 to 10 ,, ...	9	11	...	19	3	...	...	...	...	...
10 to 15 ,, ...	3	...	...	...	6	...	...	1	...	1
15 to 20 ,, ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 to 35 ,, ...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 to 45 ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
45 to 65 ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age Unknown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	20	38	3	50	23	1	2	1	1	1

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Of the 3 cases notified in the Borough, two were admitted into the West Herts Hospital from outside the area (Abbots Langley). The third was a Borough case—a child of eighteen months.

Weil's Disease.

This isolated case occurred in an adult who gave a history of being an amateur fisherman; he belonged to a local fishing club, had fished recently and had also cut his finger.

Undulant Fever.

This notification was in a boy attending a private residential school in the District. The diagnosis was not substantiated bacteriologically.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases.		Deaths.	
Pulmonary	23	Pulmonary	8
Non-Pulmonary	8	Non-Pulmonary	2

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Rural District comprises an area of 20,249 acres, and is made up of the parishes of Kings Langley, Flaunden, Bovingdon, Great Gaddesden, Flamstead and Markyate.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1948	10,660
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	3,201
Rateable Value	£64,400
Sum represented by a penny rate	£258

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	206	107	99	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	20.9
	Illegitimate	17	10	7		
STILL-BIRTHS	Legitimate	5	4	1	STILL-BIRTH RATE per 1,000 (live and still) births	21.9
	Illegitimate	—	—	—		
DEATHS		104	56	48	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births		31.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...		29.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...		58.8
Actual number of deaths under 1 year:		
Legitimate	6	Total
Illegitimate	1	7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 17

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... NIL

Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) ... 2

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 104 deaths, 26 were attributable to Heart Disease and 11 to Other Circulatory Diseases, 17 to Cancer, 2 to Respiratory Tuberculosis and 15 to Other Respiratory Diseases. One death was due to a road traffic accident.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 7 deaths, 2 were attributed to Congenital Defect or Infantile Disease, 2 to Gastro-Enteritis, 2 to Accidental Suffocation and 1 to Mongolism and Heart Failure. In 4 cases, death occurred under the age of three months.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL :	Water supply	53
	Drainage	121
	Tents, Vans and Sheds	38
	Bakehouses	9
	Refuse collection	129
	Refuse disposal	114
	Rats and Mice	3
	Miscellaneous	51
	Interviews	178
	Complaints	102
	Re-inspections	122
	Requisitioned houses	22
	Petroleum	19
	Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	149
	Houses inspected in connection with the Rural Housing Survey	225
	Miscellaneous Housing visits	35
	Infectious diseases	8
	Disinfections after infectious disease ...	4
MEAT AND FOODS :	Public houses	29
	Butchers shops	19
	Fishmongers	8
	Grocers	10
	Greengrocers	13
	Cowsheds	88

Dairies	7
Ice Cream retailers	4
Food preparing premises (Cafes and Canteens)	13
Bakehouses	9

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Statutory.	*Informal.*
Outstanding 1947	2	78
Served 1948	13	355
Complied with 1948	13	361
Outstanding 31.12.48	Nil	72

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Dustbins	266
Fireplaces	7
Houses with defective windows and doors	12
Dangerous structures	20
Houses with defective roofs, etc.	41
Drainage	66
Waterclosets	4
Water supply	35
Cleanliness	14
Wall and Ceiling Plaster	13
General dampness	12
Overcrowding	1
Pailclosets	12
Floors	8
Miscellaneous	8

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Milk Production and Distribution.

The number of persons on the Register at the end of 1948 was as follows:—

Cowkeepers only	62
Cowkeepers and Retailers	13
Retailers only (Resident in the District)	4
Retailers only (Not resident in the District) ...	4

Food Inspection.

Periodical inspection is made of cafes and canteens in the District. Many of these are patronised by transport drivers. The facilities offered are rough but, on the whole, the preparation of food is satisfactory from the public health point of view.

Many of the village public houses had been allowed to become dirty and unkempt during the war years. Representations to the Brewers in the year under review have usually been successful in obtaining improvements in decoration, repairs and drainage.

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the District.

No slaughtering for sale takes place in the District. Regional slaughtering is still centred at Watford.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred in the District during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) **Factories** in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	8	—	—
(ii) **Factories** not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	20	—	—
(iii) **Other Premises** in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	3	3	—	—
TOTAL ...	76	31	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	—	1	—	—

Outwork.

Sections 110 and 111 ... ... Nil

HOUSING

1. **Rural Housing Survey.**

The following was the position at the end of 1948:—

Total Number of Houses for inspection	Number of Houses inspected	Categories *				
		1	2	3	4	5
2279	2213	700	566	540	34	373

* **Note: Categories—**

1. Satisfactory in all respects.
2. Minor Defects.
3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.
4. Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.
5. Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable cost.

2. During the year, the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	——	Nil
Permanent...	30	All 3 bedroom - 6 parlour	4

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Prefabricated	2	Airey-3 bedroom, parlour	Nil
Permanent Brick... ...	54	All 3 bedroom-26 parlour	13

3. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.48 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 up to 31.12.48.

Site	No. of Houses	Type of House
Markyate, Buckwood Road ...	18	Brick, 3 bedroom, parlour
,, ,, ,, ...	11	Arcon—Temporary
Kings Langley, Rucklers Lane...	24	Uni-Seco—Temporary
,, ,, ,, ...	12	Brick, 3 bedroom, parlour
,, Wesley Estate...	14	Brick, 3 bedroom. non-parlour
Flamstead, Trowley Hill ...	2	Brick, 3 bedroom, non-parlour
,, Friendless Lane ...	8	Swedish, 3 bedroom, parlour
,, ,, ,, ...	2	Airey, 3 bedroom, parlour
Chipperfield, Nun Field ...	6	Brick, 3 bedroom, non-parlour
,, ,, ,, ...	6	Brick, 3 bedroom, parlour
Bovingdon, The Hyde	10	4 Airey, 3 bedroom, parlour 6 Brick, 3 bed., non-parlour
Gaddesden Row, Jockey End ...	4	Brick, 3 bedroom, non-parlour

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.48.

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
K.Langley, Barnes Lane	20	6x3 bedroom, N/parlour 4x2 bedroom, N/parlour	10	—
Bovingdon...	6	3 bedroom, parlour	6	—
Chipperfield, Nun Field...	4	3 bedroom, parlour	4	—

(c) PARTICULARS OF OTHER SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.48 (i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.48).

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type (all permanent)
Markyate, Buckwood Road... ...	10	3 bedroom (2 parlour)
Gaddesden Row, Jockey End ...	8	3 bedroom, N/parlour
Flamstead	2	3 bedroom, parlour

4. Number of houses and hutments requisitioned as at 31.12.48 ... ... 120 (approx)

Number of applicants for Council houses as at end of 1948 ... ... 540 (approx)

WATER SUPPLIES

Water supplied to Kings Langley, Bovingdon, Chipperfield and Flaunden is from the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. In this area there are also a few houses supplied from the Hemel Hempstead Borough Waterworks. Some outlying farms and houses have private supplies from deep bores.

Markyate is supplied from the Authority's own waterworks at Cheverells Green; chlorination is carried out. The water is from a deep well in the chalk. The supply has been adequate and of good quality. Flamstead is supplied from the Authority's own waterworks at Holly Bush Lane. The supply is restricted in quantity, but of satisfactory quality. The water is from a deep well in the chalk; chlorination is carried out.

The parish of Great Gaddesden is very widespread and the

sources of water are numerous. In this parish, Potten End receives adequate supplies from the Great Berkhamsted Water Company. The hamlets of Jockey End and Chequers End in Gaddesden Row are supplied by Council sources from deep wells in the chalk; in both cases chlorination is carried out. The supplies are restricted in quantity, but of good quality; distribution is poor. Great Gaddesden village has a supply from a borehole 100 feet deep; as a result of unsatisfactory samples, the well was closed last year and water obtained from a well near Church Meadow Cottages. During 1948, the well was reopened, but a notice was affixed instructing that the water should not be used for drinking purposes. Throughout the remainder of the parish, private sources are used —mostly from deep bores in the chalk.

Bacteriological sampling of all public supplies was carried out during the year, and all samples were found to be satisfactory, except from Great Gaddesden well.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Parish	Population 1948	Total No of Dwellings	(a) Direct to Houses		(b) By means of stand-pipes	
			Houses	Pop'n.	Houses	Pop'n.
Bovingdon ...	2013	575	506	1771	67	234
Flaunden ...	182	52	29	101	23	81
Kings Langley	3700	1057	1022	3577	18	59
Chipperfield ...	1382	395	336	1176	59	206
Flamstead ...	1145	327	73	255	126	390
Gt. Gaddesden	1064	304	60	198	81	283
Markyate ...	1722	492	365	1277	105	367

Population figures are approximate.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A septic tank and filter bed has been constructed at Nun Field, Chipperfield to take the drainage from an estate of 16 new houses.

The drainage of a new estate of 10 houses at Bovingdon is by septic tank. The effluent is pumped on to the land and, owing to clay soil, does not disperse except by evaporation; it is therefore unsatisfactory and it is intended to pump this sewage into the Bovingdon Airport sewage system as soon as possible.

On the Barnes Estate at Kings Langley, 550 feet of 4in. foul water sewers and 800 feet of 6in. foul water sewers have been constructed preliminarily to the erection of 60 houses.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Throughout 1948 the arrangements for refuse collection and disposal, described in the 1947 Report, were carried out.

Night Soil Collection and Cesspool Emptying.

Weekly collection of all pail closets is made at Bovingdon, Flaunden, Flamstead, Chipperfield and Great Gaddesden. Kings Langley and Markyate being sewered, there are very few pail closets, and these are dealt with privately.

A firm of Contractors carried out privately most of the work of cesspool emptying. At the end of the year, the Authority acquired an 800-gallon cesspool emptier—the intention being to empty both cesspools and pail closets by this machine.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	3	Nil
Whooping Cough	19	Nil	Nil
Measles	19	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	2	Nil	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	Nil
Infective Hepatitis	1	—	—

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Infective Hepatitis
Under 1 year ...	...	...	1	...	1	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	3	3	1	...	1
2 to 3 ,, ...	...	5	1	...	...	...
3 to 4 ,, ...	...	2	1	...	...	...
4 to 5 ,, ...	3	1	3	...	...	...
5 to 10 ,, ...	1	6	7	...	...	...
10 to 15 ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 to 20 ,, ...	...	1	...	...	...	...
20 to 35 ,, ...	...	1	2	...	...	...
35 to 45 ,, ...	...	...	...	1	...	...
45 to 65 ,, ...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	4	19	19	2	1	1

Tuberculosis.

New Cases.		Deaths.	
Pulmonary	7	Pulmonary	2
Non-Pulmonary	3	Non-Pulmonary	Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Berkhamsted comprises an area of 2,017 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1948	11,670
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	3,151
Rateable Value	£90,483
Sum represented by a penny rate	£360

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	*M.*	*F.*		
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	150	84	66	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14.7
	Illegitimate	22	13	9		
STILL-BIRTHS	Legitimate	4	2	2	STILL-BIRTH RATE per 1,000 (live and still) births	22.7
	Illegitimate	—	—	—		
DEATHS		117	53	64	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.0

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	11.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	13.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	Nil

Actual Number of deaths under 1 year:

Legitimate	2	Total 2
Illegitimate	—	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	22
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	NIL
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) ...	NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 117 deaths, 48 were attributed to Heart Disease and 9 to Other Circulatory Diseases; 7 were due to Tuberculosis (3 non-respiratory) and 8 to Other Respiratory Diseases. There were 22 deaths from Cancer and 1 from Whooping Cough.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 2 deaths, one was due to Prematurity and the other to Bronchitis and Pneumonia. Both deaths occurred at an age below three months.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Visits and Inspections Made.

Dwelling houses inspected under Public Health & Housing Acts	186
Revisits to property under Notice	155
Premises requisitioned for housing	95
Accommodation and overcrowding	71
Food preparing premises	51
Provision Stores	38
Meat Shops	36
Dairies	20
Ice Cream premises	22
Cowsheds	14
Bakehouses	47
Factories	54
Infectious cases	27
Verminous premises	10
Common lodging houses	6
Licensed premises	8
School conveniences	6
Swimming Baths	12
Market Inspections	36
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	83
Miscellaneous	84
Samples taken—Ice Cream	11
Water (Bacteriological)	6
,, (Chemical)	11

Matters Referred To:

(a) County Pests Officer (Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919)	23
(b) H.M. Factories Inspector (Factories Act, 1937)	1

Complaints.

General housing defects	20
Defective roofs	12
Defective W.C. pans and fittings	11
Defective rainwater pipes	2
Broken sinks	1
Fireplaces	6
Washcoppers	2
Lighting fittings	1
Dustbins	19
Drains	26
Verminous premises	4
Offensive smells	7
Smoke nuisance	2
Offensive accumulations	1
Overcrowding	4
Obstructive trees	1
Rats and Mice	20
Nuisances from flies, ants, wasps	5
Nuisances from chickens	3
Miscellaneous	7

Notices Served and Complied with.

SERVED:			
	Statutory ...	Housing Act, 1936	1
		Public Health Act, 1936 ...	1
	Informal ...	Housing & Public Health Acts ...	95
		Food and Drugs Act	5
COMPLIED WITH:			
	Statutory ...	Public Health Act, 1936 ...	1
	Informal ...	Housing & Public Health Acts ...	84
		Food and Drugs Act	5

Work Carried Out in Connection with Notices Served.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS:—

Defective roofs	7
Eaves and rainwater pipes	2
Dampness	11

Broken ceilings	8
Broken plaster	10
Defective windows	4
Defective floors	2
Defective Chimney flues	2
Defective firegrates	3
Defective oven ranges	1
Defective washboilers	1
Choked drains	26
Defective W.C. pans	5
Defective W.C. cisterns	4
Defective water pipes	1
Defective drain inspection chambers	1
Defective drains	2
Dirty premises cleansed	1
Absence of proper food store	1
Boundary walls repaired	1
External painting	1
Obstructing trees	1
Miscellaneous	1
Dustbins replaced	38
LICENSED PREMISES:	
Provision of flushing apparatus	1
Additional sanitary accommodation	1
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:	
Premises cleansed and limewashed	5
W.C. compartment cleansed	1
W.C. cisterns replaced	1
DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION:	
Premises disinfected after infectious disease	14
Premises disinfested after vermin	13
Bundles of Bedding steam disinfected	18

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Milk Production and Distribution.

(a) The Council has issued Supplementary licences to deal in Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk and Pasteurised Milk in respect of the sale of such milk from 3 premises within the District. The conditions of the licence in each instance have been observed. There are no bottling or pasteurising establishments within the District.

(b) Register:

The number of persons on the Register at the end of 1948 was as follows:—

Cowkeepers only	4
Retailers (Resident in the District)	2
Retailers (Not resident in the District)	1
Retailers of Bottled Milk (General Shops)	1

Ice Cream.

The occupiers of the four premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream continue to co-operate in carrying out the conditions of the Regulations.

During the year, one manufacturer built a model factory equipped with the latest type of ice cream making plant, and the other three now use electric ice cream makers.

The number of registrations effected under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is:—

Premises for manufacture and sale	4
Premises for sale only	9

Nine samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and provisional grading by the prescribed test, with the following results:—

Manufacturer	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
A.	...	1	...	2
B.	3	...	...	...
C.	...	1	1	...
D.	...	1	...	...

Meat and Food Inspection.

Periodic inspection of food preparing premises is carried out and close supervision maintained. The conduct of these premises is generally satisfactory. Regular inspection of stalls and vehicles at the weekly market is carried out.

No slaughtering is carried out within the District. The slaughtering of bovines, sheep and pigs for human consumption is centralised at Tring Abattoir which also serves Berkhamsted Rural District and Tring Urban District. All carcases and offal are subject to postmortem examination. Imported frozen meat carcases are distributed from a Watford Depot.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) **Factories** in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	13	1	—
(ii) **Factories** not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(iii) **Other Premises** in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	59	47	6	—
TOTAL ...	69	60	7	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	...	...	...
Sanitary conveniences: Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	...	...	1	...	...
TOTAL ...	7	7	1	...	...

Outwork.

Sections 110 and 111 ... ... Nil

HOUSING

1. During the year, the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent...	70	3 and 4 bedroom	2

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent...	3	3 and 4 bedroom	1

2. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.48 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 up to 31.12.48.

Site	No. of Houses	Type of house
Highfield House Estate	30	Prefabricated Bungalows
Swingate Lane Estate	20	3 bedroom, non-parlour, Permanent

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.48.

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Durrants Farm Estate ...	300	3 bedroom, non-parlour and 4 bed., parlour	74	3

(c) OTHER SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.48 ... ... Nil

3. At the end of 1948, there were 430 applicants for Council houses. A total of 13 houses were requisitioned by the Urban District Council at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLIES

The District is served by the Great Berkhamstead Water Company. The supply is constant and sufficient in quantity and quality. It is chlorinated. The water is drawn from the chalk sub-strata and no complaint of plumbo-solvency or contamination by lead has occurred.

The Authority and the Water Company each submit samples of water for bacteriological examination on alternate months. The Authority also submit samples for chemical analysis quarterly. The results of all samples prove the water to be highly satisfactory for all purposes of domestic use.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Population	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
11050	3129	10990	15	60

Population figures are approximate.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	11	11	Nil
Whooping Cough	94	5	1
Measles	247	6	Nil
Pneumonia	3	—	—
Erysipelas	5	1	—
Infective Hepatitis	2	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	1	—	—

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Infective Hepatitis	Malaria
Under 1 year ...	...	8	5	...	...	..	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	12	17	...	...	...	...
2 to 3 ,, ...	...	10	22	...	...	...	...
3 to 4 ,, ...	1	6	29	...	...	...	...
4 to 5 ,, ...	1	9	26	...	...	...	...
5 to 10 ,, ...	4	43	132	...	...	...	...
10 to 15 ,, ...	5	3	5	...	..	...	...
15 to 20 ,, ...	...	1	4	...	...	1	...
20 to 35 ,, ...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1
35 to 45 ,, ...	...	1	3	1	1	...	...
45 to 65 ,, ...	...	1	...	2	3	1	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age Unknown ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	11	94	247	3	5	2	1

Measles was epidemic this year, there being 247 cases notified as compared with 43 in 1947. The number of notified cases of Whooping Cough was 94 as compared with one in 1947. 6 cases of Measles and 5 of Whooping Cough were admitted to hospital. There was one death from Whooping Cough.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases.		Deaths.	
Pulmonary	8	Pulmonary	4
Non-Pulmonary	1	Non-Pulmonary	3

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Rural District of Berkhamsted is composed of the parishes of Northchurch, Aldbury, Wigginton, Tring Rural, Nettleden (with Potten End), Little Gaddesden and Puttenham, which comprises an area of 17,572 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1948	5,350
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	1,550
Rateable Value	£33,261
Sum represented by a penny rate	£133

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	84	47	37	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.6
	Illegitimate	5	2	3		
STILL-BIRTHS	Legitimate	2	1	1	STILL-BIRTH RATE per 1,000 (live and still) births	22.0
	Illegitimate	—	—	—		
DEATHS		51	26	25	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births		11.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...		11.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...		Nil
Actual number of deaths under 1 year:		
Legitimate	1	Total 1
Illegitimate	—	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	11
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	NIL
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	NIL
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) ...	NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 51 deaths, 20 were attributable to Heart Disease and 5 to Other Circulatory Diseases; 5 deaths were due to Respiratory Diseases, 1 to Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis and 11 to Cancer. Two deaths occurred as a result of road traffic accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

The one death occurred at 4 days from Atelectasis and Prematurity.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL:	Houses—Public Health Acts	146
	Housing Acts	355
	Overcrowding	8
	Infectious diseases	42
	Complaints investigated ...	56
	Drainage inspections and tests	69
	Tents, vans and sheds	16
	Factories, workshops and workplaces ...	19
	Bakehouses	9
	Schools	12
	Petroleum stores	26
	Work in progress	273
	Verminous premises	4
	Cesspools	80
	Canal boats	26
	Licensed premises	7
	Rivers and streams	9
	Premises disinfected	5
MEAT AND FOOD:	Slaughterhouses	Nil
	Cowsheds and Dairies	84
	Water samples taken	9
	Food stores	23

Notices Served and Complied With.

Outstanding 31.12.47	Served 1948	Complied with 1948	Outstanding 31.12.48
10	65	68	7

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Houses	176
Drainage and cesspools	62
Waterclosets	67
Dairies and cowsheds	18
Factories	9

Disinfestation.

There has been no disinfestation carried out in the district during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Milk Production and Distribution.

The number of persons on the Register at the end of the year was as follows:—

Cowkeepers only	35
Cowkeeper Retailers	14
Retailers (Non-resident in the District) ...	8

Meat Inspection.

No slaughtering for sale is carried out in the district. The slaughtering of bovines, sheep and pigs for human consumption is centralised at Tring Abattoir. All carcases and offal are subject to postmortem examination.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the district during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) **Factories** in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	14	—	—
(ii) **Factories** not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	5	—	—
(iii) **Other Premises** in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	9	19	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	5	—	—	—

Outwork.

Sections 110 and 111 ... ... Nil

HOUSING

1. Rural Housing Survey.

The following was the position at the end of the year:—

Total No. of houses for inspection	Number of houses inspected	Number of reinspections following initial visit	Classification *				
			1	2	3	4	5
1,109	933	97	273	89	463	—	108

*** Note: Classification—**

1. Satisfactory in all respects.
2. Minor Defects.
3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.
4. Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.
5. Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense.

2. During the year the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	——	Nil
Permanent...	24	3 bedroom (2 N/parlour, 22 parlour)	5

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	——	Nil
Permanent...	6	3 bedroom, parlour	6

3. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.48 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 up to 31.12.48.

Site	Number of houses	Type of house
Chesham Road, Wigginton	6	4 non-parlour, 3 bedroom 2 non-parlour, 2 bedroom
Malting Lane, Aldbury ...	4	2 parlour, 3 bedroom 2 non-parlour, 3 bedroom
New Road, Wilstone ...	4	Non-parlour, 3 bedroom
Nettleden Road, Little Gaddesden	6	2 parlour, 3 bedroom 4 non-parlour, 3 bedroom
do. do.	6	Parlour, 3 bedroom

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.48.

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Trooper Road, Aldbury ...	12	3 bedroom (10 parlour, 2 non-parlour	12	Nil
Tring Rd., Long Marston	6	Parlour, 3 bedroom	6	Nil

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.48 (i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.48).

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Vicarage Road, Potten End ...	6	Parlour 3 bedroom,
Nettleden Road, Lt. Gaddesden	16	Parlour, 3 bedroom

4. Number of houses requisitioned as at end of 1948 ... Nil

Number of applicants for Council houses at end of 1948 140

WATER SUPPLIES

The Parishes of Tring Rural, Puttenham, Wigginton and Aldbury receive constant water supplies from the Bucks Water Board. Little Gaddesden and the hamlet of St. Margarets are supplied by the Great Berkhamsted Water Company from their well at Little Gaddesden (lately Ashridge Water Company); a sample taken was satisfactory. The Great Berkhamsted Water Company also supply the parishes of Potten End and Northchurch in part. There is no piped supply to the hamlets of Frithsden or Nettleden.

During the year, the main was extended to 21 houses on Northchurch Common.

There has been no evidence of plumbo-solvency occurring in the water; supplies have a considerable degree of hardness. No action was necessary in respect of contamination.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Parish	Population 1948	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
		Houses	Pop'n	Houses	Pop'n
Aldbury	860	238	799	15	49
Little Gaddesden ...	1326	246	1326	...	...
Nettleden (with Potten End) ...	982	224	874	3	7
Northchurch	841	220	788	...	...
Puttenham	100	34	100	...	...
Tring Rural	737	183	681	13	48
Wigginton	990	244	973	...	...

Population figures are approximate.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	2	2	Nil
Whooping Cough	22	Nil	Nil
Measles	59	2	Nil
Pneumonia	2	...	...
Dysentery...	3	...	...

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Dysentery
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	6	4	...	...
2 to 3 ,, ...	...	2	3	...	...
3 to 4 ,, ...	...	4	4	...	...
4 to 5 ,, ...	...	...	7	...	...
5 to 10 ,, ...	2	10	32	...	1
10 to 15 ,, ...	...	...	8	1	...
15 to 20 ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...
20 to 35 ,, ...	...	...	1	...	...
35 to 45 ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...
45 to 65 ,, ...	...	...	...	1	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...
Age unknown ..	...	...	...	...	2
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	2	22	59	2	3

Measles was epidemic. Notifications were principally received from the parishes of Northchurch, Wigginton and Aldbury. There were altogether 59 notifications received as compared with 24 in 1947.

There were 22 notifications of Whooping Cough as compared with 4 in 1947.

Two cases of Measles were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases.		Deaths.	
Pulmonary	3	Pulmonary	Nil
Non-Pulmonary	4	Non-Pulmonary	1

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Tring comprises an area of 4,407 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1948	5,200
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	1,586
Rateable Value	£30,949
Sum represented by a penny rate	£122

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total.	*M.*	*F.*		
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	77	32	45	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.2
	Illegitimate	7	5	2		
STILL-BIRTHS						Nil
DEATHS		59	38	21	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births		35.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...		39.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...		Nil
Actual number of deaths under 1 year:		
Legitimate	3	Total 3
Illegitimate	—	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 14

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... NIL

Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) ... NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 59 deaths, 16 were attributable to Heart Disease and 9 to Other Circulatory Diseases. 3 deaths were due to Respiratory Tuberculosis and 8 to Other Respiratory Diseases. There were 14 deaths from Cancer and 1 from a road traffic accident.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 3 deaths, 2 were attributed to Prematurity and 1 to Pneumonia. All cases were under three months of age.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Visits and Inspections Made.

Re. complaints and defects	84
Revisits to premises under Notice	58
Verminous premises	2
Re. house refuse removal and disposal	17
Re. sewers and sewage disposal	7
Shops and food stores	34
Dairies and cowsheds	7
Re. infectious diseases and disinfections	15
Bakehouses	11
Factories and workshops	11
Schools and public buildings	5
Re. water supply and sampling	5
Canal boats	18

Number of Notices Served.

Informal under Public Health Act	119
Abatement under Public Health Act	1
Under Factories Act	2
Statutory under Section 13, Food & Drugs Act, 1938	1

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Dangerous structures made secure	4
Drainage defects remedied	9
Water leakages remedied	1
Ditches cleansed	1
Ashbins provided	83
Hedges lopped	3

Waterclosets rebuilt	7
Floors repaired	4
Roofs repaired	3
Dampness remedied	4
Dirty premises cleansed	2
Fire escape provided to Factory	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Milk Production and Distribution.

The number of persons on the Register at the end of 1948 was as follows:—

Producers	16
Retailers (Resident in area)	10
Retailers (Not resident in area)	5
Retailers (Bottled Milk only)	1

Food Preparing Premises.

Periodic inspection of food preparing premises is carried out and close supervision maintained. The conduct of these premises is generally satisfactory. Regular inspection of stalls and vehicles at the weekly market is carried out.

Bakehouses.

There are six bakehouses in the district. Unsatisfactory conditions at one bakehouse have been satisfactorily remedied under pressure.

Meat and Food Inspection.

1. **Retail Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption during the year:—**

Sheeps Liver	2½ lbs.
Home Beef	25 lbs.
Imported Beef	179¾ lbs.
Ox Head and Offal	53 lbs.
Bacon	12¼ lbs.
Lobster	40 lbs.
Luncheon Meat	21 lbs.
Sausage Meat	6 lbs.
Sausages	6 lbs.
Tinned Meat	5 tins

Tinned Fish	3	tins
Tinned Vegetables	7	tins
Jam	3	tins
Evaporated Milk	33	tins
Imported Eggs	10	dozen
Tinned Fruit	2	tins
Corned Beef—6lb. tins	39	tins
¾lb. tins	4	tins

2. **Tring Abattoir.**

This abattoir deals with all home killed meat supplied to Tring Urban District, Berkhamsted Urban District and Berkhamsted Rural District. Inspection during the year has been carried out by Mr. G. E. Brogan, Sanitary Inspector, Berkhamsted Urban District.

The following is a report on the year's work:—

Table I. Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	746	101	616	1820	140
Number inspected	746	101	616	1820	140
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcases **condemned** ...	...	1	...	2	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	154	39	4	55	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	20.6	38.6	.6	3.0	10.0
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ...	...	5	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	37	21	...	...	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.9	20.7	...	...	2.2

Table 2. Details of Meat Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

	lbs.	*lbs.*
(a) TUBERCULOSIS.		
Beef	4,146	
Pork	51	
		4,197
(b) OTHER DISEASES.		
Beef	5,259	
Mutton	354	
Pork	221	
Veal	42	
		5,876
Total		10,073

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) **Factories** in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	2	—	—
(ii) **Factories** not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	13	8	—
(iii) **Other Premises** in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	40	15	8	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	8	7	...	...	...
Sanitary conveniences: insufficient	3	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	1	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	15	8	...	...	...

Outwork.

SECTION 110.

No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c): Making wearing apparel, etc. 1

No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council ... Nil

No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists ... ... Nil

SECTION 111.

No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises ... ... Nil

HOUSING

1. During the year the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	—	Nil
Permanent...	14	3 bedroom, parlour	5

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Prefabricated	Nil	——	Nil
Permanent...	48	3 bedroom, parlour	3

2. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.48 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 up to 31.12.48.

Site	Number of houses	Type
Woodland Close, Park Road ...	46	3 bedroom, parlour
Gamnel, New Mill	14	3 bedroom, parlour

(b) PARTICULARS OF OTHER SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.48 (i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.48).

Site	Prop. sed No. of houses	Type
Dundale Road	10	3 bedroom, parlour

3. Number of houses requisitioned by the Authority as at 31.12.48 ... ... Nil
Number of applicants for Council houses at end of 1948 213

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

The Sanitary Inspector states:—" The number of properties not connected to sewers are approximately as follows:—

Icknield Way	35
Bulbourne	19
Tring Ford	6
Little Tring (including Hospital) ...	7

Dundale and Manor Roads	26
Duckmore Lane (not sewerable)	6
Beaconsfield Road	45

This includes farms, isolated houses and the upland area (Hastoe), where provision of sewers is unreasonable or impracticable.

There are far too many cesspools in the area especially having regard to the chalk subsoil, and it is hoped that, with the help of the Town Planning Act, 1947, no future development will be allowed without adequate sewerage. The Disposal Works are obsolete, and the best use is not made of the land available for treatment. Expert advice will soon have to be called in, and presumably application made for financial assistance under the Sewerage and Water Act, 1944.

The number of properties, in the older portion of the Town, which have to share sanitary conveniences in common, without proper flushing facilities, is far too high. The low rents, coupled with present economic position, renders improvement difficult."

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse is collected at 10-14 day intervals by means of direct labour using a hired lorry. It has been disposed of by dumping. The arrangement has been considered unsatisfactory, and efforts are being made to arrange a satisfactory and up-to-date method.

WATER SUPPLIES

The whole district, with the exception of the hamlet of Bulbourne and a small group of cottages at Little Tring, is supplied by the Bucks Water Board. The Council is aware of the unsatisfactory supplies in these two areas, and it is hoped that it will be possible to extend main water supply to them in the near future.

The water is of excellent quality and no general restrictions in the supply were imposed during the year. Samples for bacteriological analysis are taken monthly by the County Health Laboratories and results have been satisfactory. Chemical analyses have also been made during the year and have proved satisfactory. The water has no plumbo-solvent action. A chlorine dosing apparatus is in use.

There are 28 houses supplied from standpipes. In the case of 63 houses, the taps are in the wash-house. Far too many of the older houses have to share standpipes in common, and have no internal water supplies or sinks.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Population 1948	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
5200	1520	5088	28	112

Population figures are approximate.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	5	5	Nil
Whooping Cough	24	Nil	Nil
Measles	75	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles
Under 1 year ...	...	...	3
1 to 2 years ...	...	2	6
2 to 3 ,, ...	...	5	10
3 to 4 ,, ...	...	2	7
4 to 5 ,, ...	1	5	9
5 to 10 ,, ...	3	9	35
10 to 15 ,, ...	1	...	3
15 to 20 ,, ...	...	...	...
20 to 35 ,, ...	...	...	1
35 to 45 ,, ...	...	...	...
45 to 65 ,, ...	...	...	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...
Age unknown ...	...	1	1
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	5	24	75

Measles was epidemic this year. There were 75 cases notified as compared with 13 last year. No cases were removed to hospital and there were no deaths. The number of notified Whooping Cough cases rose from 3 to 24.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases.		Deaths.	
Pulmonary	2	Pulmonary	3
Non-Pulmonary	1	Non-Pulmonary	Nil

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

Area	Birth-Rate per 1,000 Population	Death-Rate per 1,000 Population	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales	17.9	10.8	34
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	20.0	11.6	39
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000, 1931 Census)	19.2	10.7	32
London Administrative County ...	20.1	11.6	31
BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ...	15.7	8.8	28.2
RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ...	20.9	9.8	31.4
URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED ...	14.7	10.0	11.6
RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED ...	16 6	9.5	11.2
URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING ...	16.2	11.3	35.7
WHOLE SOUTH HERTS (No. 1) COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT	16.6	9.6	24.9